

Fast with Apolonia Valencia

Item # 26
7-9-2019



I am fasting because I want to raise awareness of caregivers needs. We want our supervisors to hear our needs, our love ones needs, the needs of our children, our elderly needs and for my husband who needs quality care.

It would be beautiful if all of us had the opportunity to have the opportunity to take care of our love ones. For the love of God we ask that caregivers needs are not ignored. We pray

in the name of our father God that we get heard.

- Apolonia Valencia

FAST WITH CAREGIVERS



seiu 2015
California's Long Term Caregivers

Fast with Emsothon Meas



Homecare is a humbling and emphatic job that not very many people understand or experience. As a provider I am able to provide care for the disabled in the comfort of their own home. Being in the comfort of their own home is super important to recipients who are physically or mentally disabled. Homecare is a very important job that gives forth lots of love and sacrifice from a provider. This job allows recipients to live out their life in a safe and happy environment. In the end this is about the pursuit of happiness for these recipients.

The reason I am fasting is because the work that I do is being overlooked by the Board of supervisors and many other members of our community. People don't recognize how important being a provider is and how many lives we have changed through the care and love we have given. I hope that from the work I've been doing can change how people view homecare providers. I don't want to see the hard work and self-sacrificing the homecare givers do to go to waste. We deserve a living wage and to live with dignity also. Care givers do the Lord's work by allowing the most vulnerable members of our community to live comfortably in their own homes.

- Emsothon Meas

FAST WITH CAREGIVERS



seiu 2015
California's Long-Term Caregivers

Fast with Mai Houa Lee



Homecare is very important to me because it supports the disabled and seniors who cannot care for themselves.

I am fasting today because I want to show the Board of Supervisor how hard it is to be a homecare worker. We are hurt because even if we are workers, we don't have access to 401K, retirement plans, or vacation like other workers do. The income we earn on a monthly basis is not enough to cover the cost of living. After paying mortgage and utilities, we barely have enough to put food on the table until the next pay period. I am for \$1 above min wage for home workers.

Lastly, I want thank you Board of Supervisor for your time in reading this. May god bless you all so that may live a long healthy life.

- Mai Houa Lee

FAST WITH CAREGIVERS



seiu 2015
California's Long Term Caregivers

Fast with Jennifer Turner



Homecare is important to me because I personally have seen in my valley the need of care by our recipients (the people we care for) and how many more will need it in the future. Not every provider is taking care of family members, most of us take on this job because we see the need in our community. As a homecare provider who takes care of multiple clients I still can't afford to live in my city or anywhere for that matter. But I see that you'll spend our tax dollars and ignore us like we are panhandlers. We are so much more, why can't our Fresno County Board of Supervisors see that!?

I'm fasting today to show myself that what I'm sacrificing is my dignity, livelihood, and my time with family just to get our Board of Supervisors to see the value in Homecare providers. I'm tired of being ignored by my Board of Supervisor. These are the lengths we have to take to be recognized and it's sad that our Board of Supervisors are like the wealthy 1% who only care about their pockets getting bigger and not the people who put them in that position to create change! Hopefully you can sympathize and recognize the importance of our work!

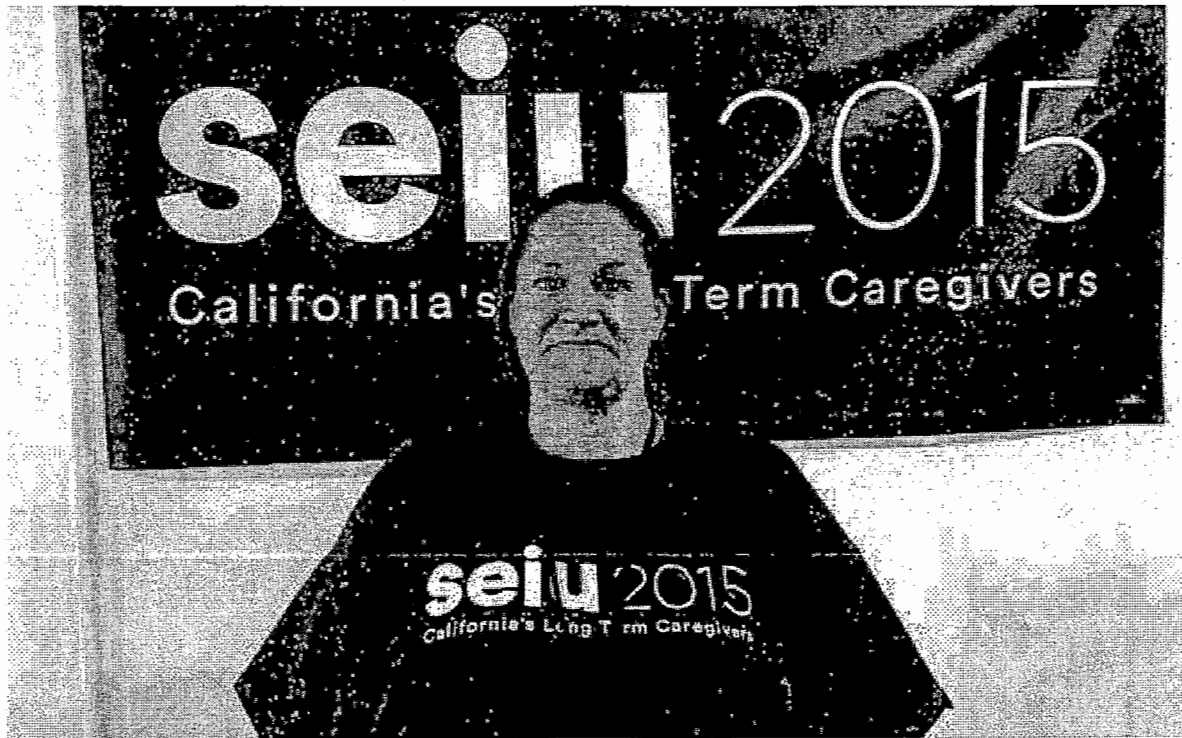
- Jennifer Turner

FAST WITH CAREGIVERS



seiu 2015
California's Long Term Caregivers

Fast with Lacey Lowry



Homecare is important because there are so many people that may not qualify, have money or the desire to go live at a facility but still need care. I ask you this Board of Supervisor, what will we do with the people who can't receive the care they need?

I am fasting so I can spend the day in prayer for you Board of Supervisors. Fasting so that our Board of Supervisors can recognize the work that homecare providers so that one day soon I will be able to earn a livable wage. I would like a wage where I can pay my bills without having to be away from my kids 10hrs a day/ 7days a week.

- Lacey Lowry

FAST WITH CAREGIVERS



Fast with Michelle Borges



*My name is Michelle Borges I live in Brian Pacheco's district.
Today Tuesday July 9th I am fasting for many reasons.*

- 1. That God will move the hearts of Fresno county board of supervisors to see the work care providers do is important to those that are age, disabled, and low income. They are human beings and deserve quality care by a provider that is receiving a living wage.*
- 2. Not is this fast doing without food but I am giving 1 days wages to fast because this would be my life if I really only sacrificed one day then many days I would have to fast and being a provider I need the strength and alertness to take care of the people I take care of.
And*
- 3. Between God and myself I am thankful and confident that God has touched your hearts if not then it is true what the community says the members of the board of supervisors do not have a heart for the people who elected the to their position I can not believe this I pray they are wrong. Or if true each of you who does not respond you need to be replaced with people who have a heart for hurting people. And GOD will prevail in our behalf either way with you or without you Thank you*

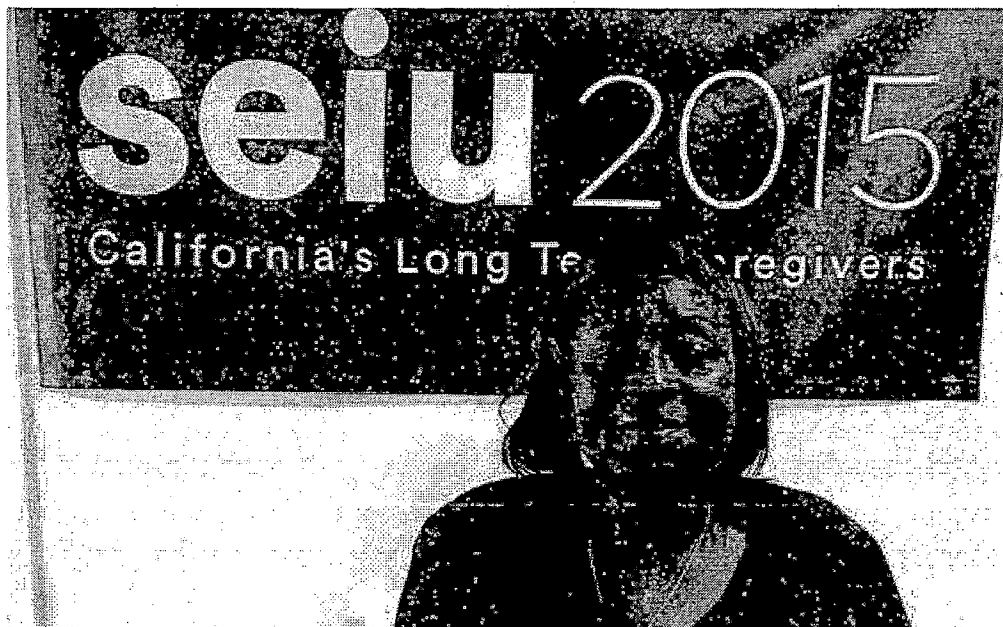
- Michelle Borges

FAST WITH CAREGIVERS



seiu 2015
California's Long Term Care Workers

Fast with Lucille McGowan



Homecare is important to me because these are real human life that needs service that we provide! These Recipients are human beings that are struggling and can't function for themselves. So as a provider we help them with basic daily tasks that people take for granted; such as feeding them and helping them use the restroom. In this life time everyone is going to need some type of care and we as homecare workers will always be a servant to those in need. Being a homecare provider is not just a job but a human right!

I'm fasting to show the Board of Supervisors how important it is to me to care for the elderly and disabled. I as a provider need to show the world how important it is to provide proper care to the most vulnerable members of our community. Do our elderly not deserve love and care; does our disabled community not deserve love and care? We all deserve love and care because we were created in the image of God. All beings on this planet we call Earth deserves to be treated with love, dignity and respect!

- Lucille McGowan

FAST WITH CAREGIVERS



seiu 2015
California's Long Term Caregivers

Fast with Dereck Smith



IHSS workers have not been afforded the same level of investment by this county for their work and their contributions to the community served in Fresno. This lack of investment is seen as a lack of respect for IHSS providers and the seniors and people with disabilities that they care for every day.

When we lift up caregivers, we lift up the entire community because every dollar an IHSS worker makes, the county only pays about sixteen cents on that dollar. The rest comes from Federal and State dollars. And yet, Supervisors have continued to say "no" to fair wages for caregivers.

I am fasting for justice, dignity and respect for caregivers.

I am fasting to bring hope to the caregivers in Fresno County.

I am fasting because homecare must be a county priority.

The work caregivers do matter, those we provide care for matter and our community matter.

- Dereck Smith

FAST WITH CAREGIVERS



seiu 2015
California's Long Term Caregivers

Fast with Roberto De La Cruz



Dear Fresno County Board of Supervisors,

My name is Roberto De La Cruz. I was born in Fresno in 1946. I am a veteran! At the age of 19 I volunteered and served my country in the Vietnam War from 1965-1969. I now find myself in Fresno once again at the age of 73... fasting in support of our community and our caregivers.

It is shameful how the County treats our communities in need, especially our caregivers who take care of our loved ones. I urge you to please improve the quality of life for our caregivers and our community.

- Roberto De la Cruz

FAST WITH CAREGIVERS



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California's Long Term Caregivers